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February 25, 2010

Public Service of South Carolina
Att: Docketing Dept.
P. O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

Ref: Docket No. 2009-489-E

The office of Regulatory Staff:

It is an outrage that SCE&G is asking for another rate increase of almost 10% in our present economic struggle unparalleled since the depression. This is unacceptable for all South Carolinians who are with SCE&G.

SCE&G was approved for a 2.25 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008.

The new rate hike will boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by approximately \$140.00 a year by July 2011.

For Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about \$93, following its recent rate increase. For SCE&G, the same level of power costs \$118. The rate boost, if granted, would put it at \$130.

SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper. The monopoly that SCE&G has on the State of SC needs to be addressed and this additional rate hike voted out.

Sincerely,

B.J.D. Hudspeth

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